

THE ROLE OF THE CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

A sponsor should play an important role in preparing the candidate for Confirmation; participate in the Rite of Enrollment; participate in the Confirmation liturgy; and should serve as a guide and role model afterward in the life long journey toward Christ.

Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism, seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic having received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation; over the age of 16, and an active registered participant of a Catholic parish.

Like the godparents chosen at Baptism, sponsors “must be firm believers, able and ready to help (the Confirmed) on the road of Christian life. Their task ... bears some responsibility for the development and safeguarding of the grace given at Baptism.” (CCC 1255)

The Responsibilities of a Sponsors are to:

- Commit time to discussing and sharing faith with their candidate as he/she prepares for Confirmation.
- Attend Mass with Candidate when possible
- Attend, with their young person, the Rite of Enrollment and the catechetical session on **Sunday, October 7, 2018**
- Write a letter to the Candidate encouraging them in their faith, which will be given to your teen during their Confirmation retreat. Letters due by **October 20th.** (see explanation)
- Participate in community service activity with the Candidate (opportunities provided)
- Attend Confirmation rehearsal (**April 27th, 1:30-3:30**) and Confirmation liturgy (**April 28th, 1-4 pm**).----*Tentative dates*
- Make yourself available to guide the confirmed after Confirmation

RETREAT

A central part of the Confirmation retreat will be the letters of support the candidates receive from parents and sponsors on retreat. It is always a very powerful experience. Many young people report reading their letters was the highlight of their retreat and often keep their Confirmation letters well into adulthood.

**Letters must be mailed into the Office
(CCSFX, P.O.Box 407, Cockeysville, MD 21030,
Attn: Joan Carlson) and received
no later than Monday October 31st.**

I am asking for your help here, if at all possible, **please take the time to hand-write your note**, place in a sealed envelope addressed to your child and mail to the parish at the address above **so it will be received by 10/20.** You may also drop it of at the Parish Office any time Monday-Thursday from 9 am-4 pm.

What you write should come from your heart and be in your own words. If you are having a hard time getting started, below are some sentence/paragraph starters. Use whatever fits/works for you.

One memory that I will never forget of you growing up was when...

You have taught me so much, for example when you...

You were right and I am sorry for the time...

I don't always get the chance to say it, but I think you are a great kid because...

Some of things I admire most in you are...

I am so proud that you are getting confirmed because...

One dream I have for your future is ...

These letters and especially their content are supposed to be a surprise for the candidate, so please don't tell them what you are writing ... or even THAT you are writing this letter. If you have any questions don't hesitate to e-mail any member of the Confirmation Team. Thank you!

